

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the invention entitled "Method of Installing and Renewing an Inlet Port Plate Filter in the Low Pressure Side of an Automotive Air Conditioning System" described and claimed in the attached specification.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification, including the claims, in the above-referenced application, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to in the Declaration.

I acknowledge my duty pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the patentability of this application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

None.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States Provisional application(s) listed below.

Title of Prior Application:      Screen Plate Filter for Low Pressure Side of  
Automotive Air Conditioning Compressor

Application Serial No. 60/216,288

Filing Date of Prior Application: July 6, 2000

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Title of Prior Application: Screen Plate Filter for Low Pressure Side of Automotive Air Conditioning Compressor

Application Serial No. 09/900,338

Filing Date of Prior Application: July 6, 2001

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Attorney Docket No.: H9589  
Customer No. 23456

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Mark J. Patterson (Reg. No. 30,412)  
I. C. Waddey, Jr. (Reg. No. 25,180)  
Edward D. Lanquist, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,729)  
Lucian Wayne Beavers (Reg. No. 28,183)  
James R. Cartiglia (Reg. No. 30,738)  
Emily A. Shouse (Reg. No. 44,336)  
Larry W. Brantley (Reg. No. 46,052)  
Douglas W. Schelling (Reg. No. 48,335)  
Phillip E. Walker (Reg. No. 52,336)  
Howard H. Bayless (Reg. No. 51,245)

**\*23456\***

**23456**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Howard H. Bayless  
Waddey & Patterson  
414 Union Street, Suite 2020  
Bank of America Plaza  
Nashville, TN 37219  
(615) 242-2400

Full name of Inventor:

Thomas M. Wall

Inventor's signature:



SEPTEMBER 22, 2003  
Date

Residence:

124 Montcastle Court  
Nashville, Tennessee 37221

Citizenship:

United States

Post Office Address:

124 Montcastle Court  
Nashville, Tennessee 37221

Applicant or Patentee: Thomas M. Wall

Attorney's Docket No. H9589  
Customer No. 23456

For: METHOD OF INSTALLING AND RENEWING AN INLET PORT PLATE FILTER IN THE LOW PRESSURE SIDE OF AN AUTOMOTIVE AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 C.F.R. 1.9 (f) & 1.27 (c)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled "Method of Installing and Renewing an Inlet Port Plate Filter in the Low Pressure Side of an Automotive Air Conditioning System" described in the specification filed herewith.

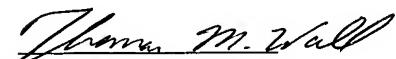
I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights to the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R 1.9(a).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

There are no such persons, concerns, or organizations.

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 C.F.R. 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

  
Thomas M. Wall

SEPTEMBER 22, 2003  
Date